

FISH & NEAVE

875 THIRD AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022-6250

TELEPHONE: (212) 715-0600

TELEX 14-8367

CABLE ADDRESS FISHNEAVE

TELECOPIER: (212) 715-0674

June 21, 1990

CHARLES B. SMITH
DAVID W. PLANT
ALBERT E. FEY
JOHN D. TRAMONTINE
HERBERT F. SCHWARTZ
LARS I. KULLESEID
WILLIAM J. GILBRETH
ERIC C. WOGLON
JOHN E. NATHAN
ROBERT C. MORGAN
KENNETH B. HERMAN
EDWARD F. MUKLOWNEY
ROBERT R. JACKSON
JESSE J. JENNER
W. EDWARD BAILEY
DAVID J. LEE

PATRICIA A. MARTONE
JAMES F. HALEY, JR.
RICHARD M. BARNES
LAURENCE S. ROGERS
THOMAS L. GIANNETTI
VINCENT N. PALLADINO
ROBERT J. GOLDMAN
THOMAS L. SECREST
DANIEL M. GANTT
NORMAN H. BEAMER
KEVIN J. CULLIGAN
GLENN A. OUSTERHOUT
SUSAN PROGOFF
MARGARETA PIERRI
RON E. SHULMAN

FREDERICK P. FISH

1955-1930

CHARLES NEAVE

1967-1937

A. PETERADLER
RICHARD A. INZ

THOMAS J. VETTER

C. JOSEPH LAUGHON, II
DOUGLAS J. GILBERT
WAYNE M. KENNARD
LEON R. YANKWICH
DENISE L. LORING
JEFFREY H. INGERMAN
ROBERT M. ISACKSON
ROBERT A. J. MORRIS
DAVID K. BARR
CHRISTA HILDEBRAND
LISA E. CRISTAL
EDWARD P. KELLY
MARK H. BLOOMBERG
JAMES T. CANFIELD
ALAN D. SMITH
DAVID C. PLACHE
JOHN E. SCHNEIDER
ERIC M. LEE
JANE A. MASSARD
DUANE-DAVID HOUGH
MITCHELL P. BROOK
JOHN F. WARD
DAVID J. MEYER
DOREEN F. SHULMAN
EDWARD J. DeFRANCO

MARK D. ROWLAND
PHILIPPEY RIESEN
TERRENCE J. P. KEARNEY
JOSEPH H. GUTH
GERRY A. FIFER
MICHAELA A. MESSINA
MICHAELA O'SHEA
CAROLINE M. SUN
ERIC R. HUBBARD
DAVID A. LOEWENSTEIN
JOHN J. CASSINGHAM
LINDA A. WADLER
KELSEY I. NIX
KAREN L. ALBERT
MARTAE. GROSS
ROBERT P. MARLEY
JOHN M. HINTZ
JOHN STORELLA
WILLIAM J. MCCABE
JOHN M. DESMARIS
SCOTT H. BLACKMAN
VICKI S. VEENKER
LESLIE A. McDONELL
BRIAN S. BRANOT
CHRISTOPHER P. GODZIELA

BY TELECOPIER - CONFIRMATION BY AIR MAIL

Mr. John H. Bass
Reddie & Grose
16 Theobalds Road
London WC1X 8PL
ENGLAND

Re: Taiwanese Application No. 78106087
Your File: 30588
Our File: PM-1315 (Taiwan)

Dear John:

Thank you for your fax of today, regarding this application and enclosing the official action.

As in case PM-1322, you correctly point out the distinguishing features of the claims, including the use of a ceramic sleeve and the transfer of heat by radiation and convection. And again, the reference, as a method, neither shows nor suggests those features, which are described in the specification. In particular, it was necessary to develop a ceramic sleeve that was sufficiently strong and yet sufficiently lightweight and porous, as described at pages 10 and 11.

The issue of allowing air to reach the heat source but not the flavor bed is not a factor here except in the dependent claims.

With regard to the claim 2 feature (in this case and in PM-1322), the provision of an annular space around the heat source allows more air to reach the heat source, aiding ignition and combustion.

I doubt that any experiments could be run in this case because the ceramic sleeve embodiment was discontinued early in the development program for this project.

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TO Mr. John H. Bass

June 21, 1990

FOLIO 2

With respect to prosecution in the United States, the only amendment required to secure allowance in the United States was the addition of the word "direct" in claim 1, at line 19, after "in".

Please let me know if you need anything further.

Very truly yours,



JHI:bas

Jeffrey H. Ingerman

cc: Ms. Beverly A. Monroe
[By Telecopier - Confirmation By Mail]

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